Eisenhower would recognize, appreciate and welcome.

So laides and gentleman, it is now my honor and privilege to present to you a friend a person of enormous gifts and endless dedication, Susan Eisenhower.●

THE HONORABLE ALVIN BROOKS, KANSAS CITY, MO, MAYOR PRO TEM AND CITY COUNCILMAN AT-LARGE, 6TH DISTRICT

● Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to honor and recognize an outstanding gentleman, Mr. Alvin Brooks, on his 70th birthday. Mr. Brooks, Kansas City, MO, Mayor Pro Tem and 6th District at-large City Councilman, is truly extraordinary. His fifty years of tireless commitment to public service in Kansas City, devotion to community activism, civic participation, and youth advocacy are an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Brooks was elected to serve as the 6th District at-large Councilman in 1999. After his election, Mayor Kay Barnes appointed Brooks as Mayor Pro Tem. In addition to serving as Mayor Pro Tem, he is vice chair of the Legislative, Rules and Ethics Committee, a member of the Finance and Audit Committee, and chair of the Public Facilities and Safety Committee.

In 1991, Brooks was selected as President of the Ad Hoc Group Against Crime, a grassroots community organization he founded in 1977. Former President George Bush honored Brooks in November 1989 for his work with the Ad Hoc Group Against Crime and named him one of America's 1,000 Points of Light. President Bush also appointed him to a three-year term on the President's National Drug Advisory Council. Former Drug Czar William Bennett recognized Brooks as being one of the nation's ''front-line soldiers in our war against drugs.''

Prior to serving as President of the Ad Hoc Group Against Crime, Alvin Brooks already had a distinguished career in public service. He was a Kansas City, MO police officer for 10 years, where he held the rank of detective. During that time, Alvin worked extensively with runaways and gang members, demonstrating his commitment to improving social conditions for young people, especially inner-city youth. He also served as assistant city manager for seven years and was the first African American to serve as a department head for the city of Kansas City, MO.

Though it is possible to list Alvin Brooks' professional accomplishments, it is impossible to measure the immense impact this man has had, and continues to have, in Kansas City. He has touched and improved the lives of countless Kansas Citians. His voice can still be heard on the radio urging community action, not as Mayor Pro Tem, but as the respected community elder whose commitment to others is unquestioned. He is truly the voice of moral authority in Kansas City.

I commend Mr. Alvin Brooks for his selfless dedication to the improvement of Kansas City and wish him all the best on his 70th Birthday. Kansas City is certainly fortunate to have such a dedicated public servant. On behalf of all those you have served, Alvin, I thank you.●

COMMEMORATING THE CHERRY BLOSSOM TEN MILE RUN

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the running of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run on April 7, 2002. Fifty-eight credit unions, credit union associations, and credit union leagues sponsored this Washington, DC institution, which coincides with the annual spring rites of the tidal basin cherry blossoms. This is the first year that Credit Unions have sponsored the race.

I want to commend the over 7,032 finishers, and especially the over 3,500 registered runners who were member of credit unions. A special congratulations to Public Health Service Federal Credit Union for winning the credit union team competition. Additionally, I am proud of 350 plus credit union employees who arrived at the race in the chilly, pre-dawn hours to serve as volunteers helping administer the race. It was also great to see Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson participate.

The Cherry Blossom Run has taken place during the spring blooming of Washington's historic cherry trees for 30 years. Starting out as a small family event with 141 finishers it is now a world-class event that includes some of the world's foremost long distance runners. I want to congratulate this year's winners: Men's, Rueben Cheruiyot, 47:12; Women's, Luminita Talpos, 52:50.

This year, in conjunction with the race, credit unions raised over $60,000 for the Children's Miracle Network and donations are still being collected. This was a great event and credit unions should be proud of the role they played. Washingtonians and runners around the world are looking forward to the 2003 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile run.●

DEVELOPING NEW MEDICINES

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues in the Senate to an article that appeared in the Wall Street Journal on May 2 which provides an important perspective on the challenging and vital process of developing new medicines. It is no coincidence that the article features Pfizer Inc., a world leader in pharmaceuticals and a company that made its home in my home State of Connecticut. Pfizer's contribution to changing the quality of health care by developing new therapies for conditions such as epilepsy, depression, arthritis, high blood pressure and more has been invaluable. This sort of innovation has increased the quality of care we deliver as well as changed the nature of it, with new medicines resulting in fewer trips to hospitals, doctor's offices, and better overall care for so many patients.

The article details the company's efforts, ultimately unsuccessful, to discover, develop and test a new medicine to strengthen muscle, thereby helping to prevent injury and possibly osteoporosis in the elderly. In the process, Pfizer committed a team of scientists, $71 million, and 10 years of effort, and this was before the development process even progressed to advanced clinical trials, underscoring the tremendous investment required in developing each new therapy. Despite this infusion of resources and time, the project ultimately failed to produce the desired therapy. But the accounting of this process in an excellent example of the risks, costs and efforts involved in innovation.

We must continue to recognize and support these research and development efforts because we know the value they can provide. As we work in this Congress, and we must, to expand coverage and increase access to new medicines, we should strive to craft policy that continues to encourage the development of innovative products that can change and even save lives while helping to ensure that all our citizens benefit from such innovation.

I ask that this article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

DRUG PRICES—WHY THEY KEEP SOARING—BLEEDING CASH: PFIZER 'YOUTH PILL' . . .

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL VIA DOW JONES

About a sixth of Pfizer's portfolio of drugs in development were approved by Dr. Clark and his colleagues, including the frailty drugs, which got the green light in December 1995. He was confident the frailty compound would succeed, ranking it among the top third of candidates at the time.

But even among the fortunate drugs that pass muster initially with Dr. Clark's committee, the odds remain stacked against their ever making it to market. Dr. Clark's group also guides the researchers, funds interim studies and establishes milestones for judgment. And at any point Dr. Clark's committee can kill the very projects it has approved. Last year, the committee terminated research on five of seven promising medicines it had previously ''canned.''

The growth-hormone project quickly surpassed all the researchers' expectations. From the time the project was canned, it took only nine months to develop a drug that was safe enough to test in humans—a speed record for the research center in Groton, Conn., across the river from administrative headquarters in New London. The drug ''had no bumps or warts,'' marveled Gordon Gruetzmacher, project manager for the frailty drug.

Though increasingly optimistic, Pfizer scientists and managers were sober about the challenges the potential new medicine faced—especially the elusive nature of the condition it was intended to treat. Frailty, which they came to define as an ''age-related decline in physical performance,'' wasn't a recognized disease, like osteoporosis or Alzheimer's.

A drug to treat the chronic condition, like many the industry is now tackling, would require lengthy and especially expensive clinical studies because its effects might be subtle and take months or years to understand. To make sure that an experimental drug deserves such a sizable investment. Pfizer blends marketing with R&D early on. A marketing specialist works with each drug team to ascertain commercial merit. In particular, will the drug meet a compelling unmet medical need and will Pfizer be able to differentiate its medicines from those of its competitors?

For the frailty drug, researchers believed they would have to show that it could do more than boost hormone levels or even muscle growth. Early talks with the Food and Drug Administration confirmed the higher standard. Insurers, too, would need evidence that the frailty drug would be worth their expense.

to persuade regulators and insurers to embrace the drug, the Pfizer team aimed to prove beyond a doubt that elderly people who took it could walk faster and longer and avoid the kinds of falls that force many of them into nursing homes.

Such a drug also could appeal to a younger, healthier but worried market, people who might use the medicine as a lifestyle enhancer, like Viagra, decades before they faced a real danger of frailty. For Pfizer, a medicine to stave off the ravages of old age, unlike an antibiotic taken for a week, could provide a long-term revenue stream: ''People will take it for 20 or 30 years—it'll be like a vitamin,'' predicted John LaMattina, a senior research executive, early last year.

In late 1996, the frailty drug hit its first setback when an otherwise healthy man participating in a small safety study in the Netherlands developed a mysterious, mild rash. The test was halted while the team investigated. The cause was never found, though the leading theory remains that he had a reaction to laundry detergent or hand soap. After a few months, the team concluded that the drug was safe enough to continue.

Pfizer recognized the growth-hormone workers as the best research team of 1996 for their trail-blazing accomplishments. And they continued on the fast track, initiating in late 1997 a larger clinical test of the drug, involving 114 people who randomly received one of four different doses or a placebo for a month. At this stage, the researchers sought to substantiate the safety of the drug and to pinpoint the best dose to use in subsequent tests of effectiveness.

To their happy surprise, the scientists found that even a one-month regimen with the experimental drug produced measurable growth of muscle. ''it was great,'' Dr. Gruetzmacher recalls, ''We didn't expect an increase in less than six months.''

Though encouraging, the results didn't prove the drug was working. The test could have been a fluke. Besides, increases in muscle mass, even if they were real, wouldn't convince regulators to approve the drug, everyone had previously agreed. After lengthy discussion, the team decided to propose a six-month trial of the drug to Dr. Clark and his committee for approval and funding.

But the scientists realized that showing that the drug halted or reversed aging would take months or even years. Dr. Clark pushed the research team to reconsider its time frame and ''go for the home run'' by pursuing a longer and much more expensive test that could detect subtle improvements in patients' ability to function.

The team took six months to design a trial that would provide a definitive answer on whether the drug worked. They eventually proposed a two-year study in elderly patients that would measure muscle and some biochemical markers in the bloodstream. They also would test the subjects' walking speed and endurance and their ability to get in and out of a chair.

Dr. Clark's management committee agreed to fund the study in about 350 patients, much larger than usual for such an early stage. To hedge the outsize bet and ensure that the project was on track, the study included interim analyses at six and 12 months.

Last summer, three senior managers unconnected to the project, including a statistician, were chosen to review the data after six months. As outsiders, they were expected to be unbiased, and they would share their findings with only a few senior managers.

In less than a week, they had reached their conclusion and called Dr. Clark. He decided to break the secrecy and inform the research team of the news.

The patients taking the frailty drug had gained some muscle mass—but less than 3% more than the placebo group, which had also experienced muscle increases. There were no safety problems with the drug. But the study was stopped within a month because the drug appeared ineffective.

Nobody is quite sure why. One theory is that the patients selected for the study may have been too healthy, so there was less room for improvement in the treated group. Another idea is that the drug caused the pituitary gland to release growth hormone in a way that was out of tune with the body's system for using it.

In the end, Dr. Clark's committee ''took pity on us,'' Dr. Landshulz says, and allowed the team one last chance to salvage the medicine. They were permitted to collect and analyze data on the group of early patients in the study who had taken the drug for a year—just in case its effectiveness emerged later than six months.

That was a long shot, everyone agreed, but worth the modest incremental expense. The final analysis was completed this spring, and the results were the same.

Later this month, Dr. Clark's committee will review the file one last time and officially lay to rest the frailty drug, which Pfizer says cost the company $71 million to research and develop.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING

Half of Pfizer's top-earning drugs face patent-expiration pressure.

Drug and Purpose	Expiration of basic U.S. patents	2001 revenue, in billions
Lipitor: Cholesterol	2010	$6.45
Norvasc: Blood Pressure	2006	3.58
Zoloft: Depression	2006	2.37
Neurontin:[1] Epilepsy	1994, 2000	1.75
Viagra: Impotence	2011	1.52
Zithromax: Antibiotic	2005	1.51
Celebrex:[2] Arthritis	2013	[3] 1.16
Diflucan: Antifungal	2004	1.07

[1] Pfizer claims a separate patent concerning chemical stability of Neurontin protects drug until 2017

[2] Pfizer co-promotes Celebrex for Pharmacia Corp.

[3] Estimate.•

APPRECIATION FOR THE SONG, ''WE UNITE,'' BY MS. BECKY COLE

• Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I am pleased to share with my colleagues in the Senate and the American people the song, ''We Unite,'' by Becky Cole. The strength and patriotism of Americans following the September 11 attacks inspired her to write and record this song. It captures our citizens' love for their country, its ideals, and its liberties. For me, this song is a reminder of those who are working to rebuild the buildings that were destroyed and reverse the economic consequences of that terrible day. It reminds me of the victims and their families' courage to carry on and live. This song also reminds me of our service men and women around the world who are defending our Nation.

I ask to print in the RECORD the lyrics to Ms. Cole's song.

The material follows:

A NATIONAL ANTHEM ''WE UNITE''

(Words and Music by Becky Cole)

From the depths of the graves we come now as one,
Yielding our lives to an unselfish love.
To expose that which is evil, to remove that which is dark,
To lift up our flag as others burn and tear it apart.

We will fight for justice,
We will risk our lives for love,
We'll rebuild America, with hope we'll stand as one.
To the mighty God above us, we salute and pray,
As one nation under God, we unite our lives today.

Though the winds and the waves have swept across our land,
Causing us to question the beliefs on which we stand.
But now, we're a new nation, under the red, white and blue,
A flag that stands for freedom and waves for me and you.•

TEACHER MAURICE LARUE RETIRES FROM STURGIS HIGH SCHOOL

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor Maurice (Maury) LaRue on the occasion of his retirement as a teacher in the Meade County School District in South Dakota.

By the end of May, Maury LaRue will have completed 33 years in the teaching profession, all at Sturgis High School. Upon graduation with a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of North Dakota, LaRue accepted a position as teacher and debate coach at Sturgis in 1969.

His teaching career has ranged from social studies and literature to vocational broadcasting and forensics. There has always been a strong emphasis on communication skills for LaRue. For 20 years, he was one of South Dakota's most respected and successful debate coaches. His debaters won numerous local, state, regional and national forensic honors. And while his students performed well in competition, the true measure of Maury's ability to build and improve the communication skills of his students, came in the number who went on to become successful community leaders, business leaders, attorneys, senior political staff as well as students who were able to think and communicate in their daily lives as adults, thanks to Maury's dedicated teaching style.

In addition to his many years as teacher and debate coach, Maury also coached cross-country and track for